

# Historic Resources



# HISTORIC RESOURCES

## INTRODUCTION

York County and the surrounding region are rich in both historic archaeological and architectural resources, and preservation of these resources while maintaining appropriate opportunities for development is an ongoing challenge. For the benefit of both residents, commercial interests and developers, it is important to plan ahead for the identification and preservation of these resources, rather than having to respond in a reactive or haphazard manner after development is proposed. Responses to the telephone survey conducted pursuant to this Plan update indicate that preservation of historic sites and structures should be one of the County's top priorities, second only to protection of the natural environment in importance to County residents. The Historic Resources element contains a summary of efforts made thus far in the preservation of the County's historic resources as well as recommendations for future objectives and implementation strategies to further historic resource preservation goals.

## County History

The following summary is an update of the Historic Overview chapter of the 2000 *Historic Resources Survey of York County, Virginia*, prepared in conjunction with a matching grant from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and in coordination with the York County Planning Division.

At the time the first English colony was established at Jamestown in 1607, the region was occupied by Algonquin-speaking Powhatan Indians. These natives, whose subsistence was supported by agriculture supplemented by hunting, fishing and foraging, lived in settlements located along the major streams and rivers of the peninsula. It is estimated that over 13,000 Indians inhabited the coastal plain region of Virginia at the beginning of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

Initial amicable relations with the Indians during the first decade of English settlement declined as cultural differences and the English desire for increased land ownership created conflicts. The first English settlements in York County, Chiskiack and Fort York, were established in 1630 to provide a buffer between the existing settlements on the James River and the Indian settlements to the west. Development of these settlements included a palisade between the James and York Rivers, terminating at Chiskiack. In 1633, the fortification settlement was designated as a port of entry for Virginia. Several instances of open warfare between the English and Indians occurred during the middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, and in 1677 a peace treaty was negotiated between the English and Powhatan nations.

In 1634, the Virginia Assembly organized the Virginia colony into eight shires, or counties, one of which was Charles River Shire (named for King Charles I). In 1643, the name of Charles River Shire was changed to York County (named for James, Duke of York and second son of King Charles I). As the population grew along the York River and new settlements developed, the Counties of Gloucester (1653) and New Kent (1654) were divided out of York County lands, and a portion of the western part of the County was ceded to James City County. York County is the only county on the James-York peninsula with intact court records to this period. The majority of the middle peninsula town and county records were destroyed during the Civil War.

By 1640, the majority of the land east of the palisade had been developed, and by the 1650s, York County was integrated into the plantation system of tobacco cultivation, the main agricultural crop that dominated the economy of the region up until the time of the Civil War. The institution of slavery developed along with the tobacco economy of the region, and York County's initial settlers brought Africans with them to work their plantations as early as the 1630s.

Yorktown was created by the Virginia Assembly in 1691, and during the first half of the eighteenth century the town was the principal port for the tobacco and slave trades serving the Virginia coastal plain region. After 1750, the tobacco trade fell into decline because of drought, depletion of the soil from the nutrient-demanding crop, and the shift of shipping operations to more northerly ports such as Fredericksburg.

During the 1760s and 1770s, wheat and grain crops, livestock, and forestry products replaced tobacco as the County's economic base. Tobacco cultivation required a large work force on a year-round basis, while producing these commodities needed a smaller work force during a seasonal time frame. As a result, many African-Americans were sold to plantations in the Deep South during this period.

The Revolutionary War brought great hardship to the County. Much of Yorktown was destroyed, and the country surrounding it was damaged and ransacked by both Colonial and English militia. Yorktown is most noted as the site of the 1781 surrender by Lord Cornwallis to the American, German, and French forces under General George Washington and the Comte de Rochambeau.

The County remained rural and agricultural in nature through the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The economy was slow during the early part of the century, and little industry was developed. Industrial census figures from this period indicate several gristmills on the larger streams, such as Burwell's Mill (aka Whittaker's Mill) at King's Creek Plantation, and numerous looms for the manufacture of linen and wool textiles. According to the 1850 Census, the County population comprised 1,825 whites, 2,181 African-American slaves and 454 free African-Americans. Almost half of the households in the County listed farming as their principal occupation. Oystering and fishing ranked second to farming as an occupation. Other occupations included storekeepers, retail merchants, carpenters, bricklayers, lawyers, physicians, and clergymen.

The Civil War devastated much of the County. There were several battles fought in and around the County, and in 1862, Yorktown, while occupied by Confederate troops, was held under siege by Union forces. By 1865, numerous farms had been abandoned, and grain and livestock production fell dramatically. With the emancipation of African-American slaves, the plantation system of agriculture ceased to exist. The County, like much of the country, fell into an economic depression, from which it was slow to recover. Many of the large plantations were divided into smaller parcels and sold, leased or worked on shares.

By the last quarter of the century, the number of farms in the County increased, while their average size decreased. The 1870 Census indicates that more than two-thirds of the farms in the County contained less than 20 acres. This Census also indicates that only seven manufacturing business existed in the County, including a sawmill and two flour mills, and only 36 people were employed in manufacturing.

The trend of decreasing farm size continued into the early twentieth century. A total of 960 farms were reported in the 1910 Census, more than 80% of which were owner occupied. Grain crops continued to be the primary agriculture product, with livestock, poultry, hay, sorghum, potatoes and peanuts also being produced. This Census reported no manufacturing businesses in the County.

A noticeable change in the development of the County was the establishment of several village centers. The villages were typically located at a crossroads containing a post office, school or church, store, and a few dwellings. The remnants of these communities exist today in Dare, Tabb, Seaford, Yorkville, Hornsbyville, Harris Grove, Dandy, Grove, Lackey, Magruder and Skimino.

During the first half of the twentieth century, industrial and military development greatly changed development patterns in the County. Just prior to World War I, the DuPont Corporation

purchased 4,000 acres of farmland on the York River for a dynamite plant and constructed the town of Penniman to house its workers. Before the plant went into production, the Federal Government took over the facility, now known as Cheatham Annex, and developed a shell-loading plant. At the end of the war, the plant was closed and the town of Penniman disappeared. Today the Penniman Road name is all that remains of the original residential development, and the military installation is used as a supply depot. In 1917, the Navy purchased 12,000 acres of land west of Yorktown and established the Naval Weapons Station. The Atlantic Fleet was based in Yorktown during the war, and the regional fuel oil depot serving the Navy was located on the present-day site of the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center. The Federal Government established Camp Peary in 1942 on the York River between Kings Creek and Queens Creek as a Navy training facility for construction battalions. The facility was used as a prisoner-of-war camp during World War II, and many prisoners worked on farms in the area during their internment. The facility continues today as an armed forces experimental training facility. Areas not affected by military activities remained rural in nature during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and farming and shellfish continued to be the main basis of the County's economy. Cash crops included corn, soybeans, truck crops, oysters, crabs and scallops.

Following World War II, the County experienced rapid suburban development. Military bases in the County and in Newport News (Fort Eustis) and Hampton (Langley Air Force Base) used during the war became permanent installations, and personnel stationed at the facilities added to the area population. In addition to housing military personnel, York County has also become a bedroom community for employees of the private sector in Newport News and Hampton. Suburban development is currently concentrated in the southern and eastern parts of the County. Another factor contributing to rapid suburban growth has been the construction of Interstate 64, where development has concentrated at its major interchanges. Development of the Dominion Virginia Power facility and the Giant Industries petroleum refinery on the Goodwin Neck peninsula greatly increased tax revenues for the County. Today, the economy of the County is primarily oriented toward the retail, service, and tourism industries.

## EXISTING RESOURCES

Historical resources are classified as “above ground” or architectural, and “below ground” or archaeological. Architectural resources can include dwellings, non-residential buildings, outbuildings, wharves, monuments, bridges, or earthworks. Archaeological resources can include remains of hearths, weapons, tools, trash pits, pottery, utensils, human or animal remains, wells, building foundations, or fence lines. York County has a wealth of both types of resources.

One of the first comprehensive reports identifying historical resources for York County as well as Williamsburg and James City County and giving recommendations for their preservation was the 1986 report, *Toward a Resource Protection Process*, prepared by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation (CWF) Department of Archaeological Research with grant monies from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR). This report was updated in 1990 and is the current reference document for the County Zoning Ordinance Historic Resources Management overlay district. Information and research sources for the majority of sites identified in the report come primarily from archives and reports held by the VDHR. Updates to the VDHR archives are made continuously, and many more sites have been identified and cataloged since publication of the 1990 report, which listed a total of 71 architectural sites and 536 archaeological sites in the County.

In June 2000 the report *Historic Resources Survey of York County, Virginia* was completed by the County utilizing matching grant funds from the VHDR. The report consists of an architectural survey of the standing historic buildings (over 50 years of age) in the County, exclusive of land owned by the Federal Government (attached as Appendix A). The report also contains an evaluation of specific buildings having merit for preservation as well as recommendations for future historic preservation actions by the County. All buildings surveyed were reported to

VDHR and their recorded information is included in the VDHR archives. Cultural resource surveys and reports have been completed on Federally-owned land in the County by military agencies and the National Park Service, and report data is contained within VDHR archives.

Current VHDR records list 367 architectural and 1,003 archaeological sites within the County. A listing and map of the architectural sites is contained in Appendix A. Of those sites, the following are listed on the Virginia Landmark Register (VLR) and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

- The Old Custom House, Main Street, Yorktown

This two-story brick storehouse was built in 1720 by Richard Ambler, custom collector, and served in the early-to-mid seventeenth and eighteenth centuries as one of the oldest Colonial customhouses. Because of Yorktown's importance in the tobacco trade, the Custom House may well have been the best known public building of its day in Virginia after the Capitol and Governor's Palace in Williamsburg. In 1865, the building was commandeered by Civil War Confederate General John Magruder for use as his headquarters. In 1882 the building was sold to an African-American physician, Dr. D.M. McNorton, who used the building for his office. A school for black children was held on the second floor landing, and Dr. McNorton's daughter taught music there.



*Old Custom House*

source: National Park Service

- Grace Church, Main Street, Yorktown

In November 1696, Governor Francis Nicholson pledged 20 pounds sterling for the construction of a church in Yorktown, and in 1697, the York-Hampton Parish Church was built on Main Street. The church is one of the few surviving colonial structures built of marl. During the Revolutionary War, Lord Cornwallis used the church as a magazine. Following destruction from fire in 1814, the church was reconstructed in 1848 and its name changed to Grace Church. During the Civil War, the building was used as a hospital.

- Kiskiack, or Lee House, Naval Weapons Station

This is a brick farmhouse built during the late seventeenth century. Henry Lee obtained a patent for the property in 1641. Lee served as a justice for the Court of York and was a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses.

- Sessions-Pope-Sheild House, Main Street, Yorktown

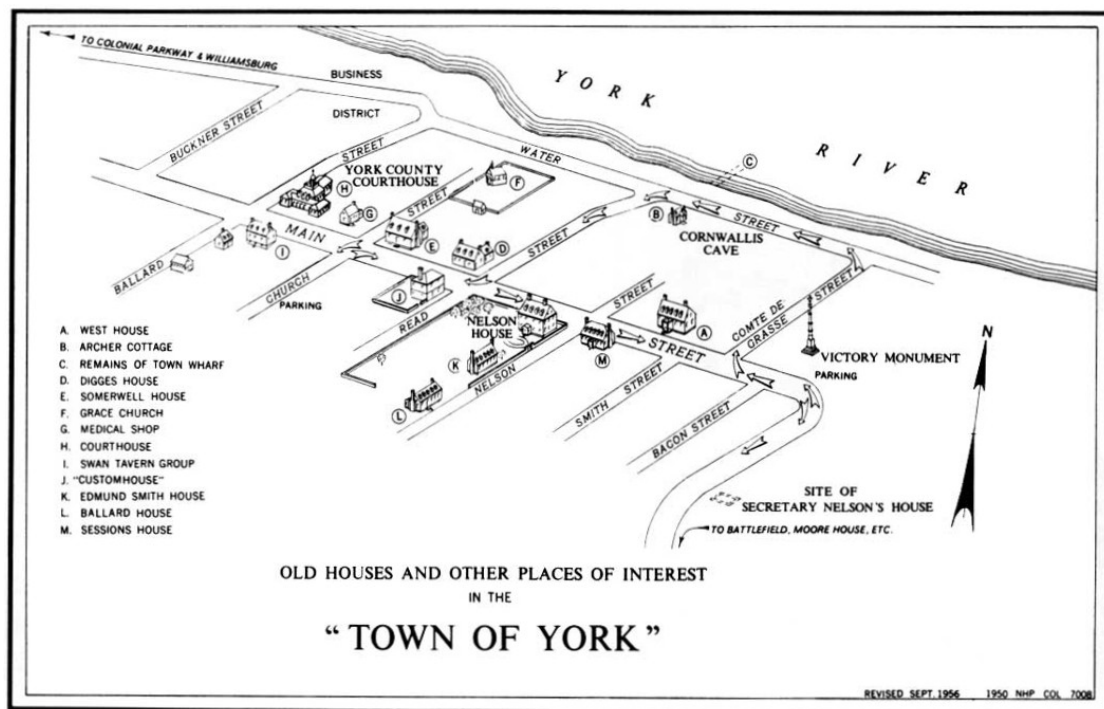
This one-and-a-half story brick dwelling is considered one of the finest examples of mid-eighteenth century colonial architecture. The building has remained intact for close to 300 years. During the Civil War, the building served as headquarters for Union General Henry M. Naglee following the abandonment of the town by the Confederates. The property has remained in the Sheild family since 1901, and has hosted Presidents Wilson, Harding, Hoover and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

- Porto Bello, Camp Peary

This plantation site was once the dwelling of Lord Dunmore, Virginia's last royal governor. A small brick house remains today, but there were originally several other plantation buildings on this site, including workshops, barns and stables. It was from here that Lord Dunmore fled to his ship the *Fowey* on the York River to escape patriot hostility in 1775.

- Yorktown Historic District

The Historic District encompasses approximately 4,500 acres of land, and includes portions of the Colonial National Historical Park, Yorktown Village, the Moore House, Yorktown Battlefield, Surrender Field, Commander's Headquarters and cemeteries. Yorktown village



1956 Tourist Map of Historic Yorktown

source: National Park Service

was established in 1691 by the Virginia Port Act on land originally part of the Captain Nicholas Martiau tract. The 50-acre village was laid out in 85 half-acre lots on the bluffs above the York River. The original street and lot lines remain to this day. Land was left between the town lots and the river for development of wharves, stores and lodgings. The town was a prosperous commercial port for much of the eighteenth century. The town is best known as the site of the Revolutionary War siege and surrender of the British army under General Lord Charles Cornwallis to General George Washington and the Comte de Rochambeau in 1781. Following the destruction of much of the town during the siege of 1781, the town changed from a commercial center to a quiet village. In 1862, during the Civil War, the town was occupied by Confederate forces under Major General John Magruder, and was held under a month-long siege by Union General George McClellan. Union forces remained in the town for several years after the siege. Some of the fortifications from the siege are still visible. The town contains numerous historic buildings, including Grace Church, the Pope-Sessions-Sheild House, Dudley Diggs House (West House), Thomas Pate House (Cole Digges House), Old Customs House, Nelson House, and the William Rogers pottery kilns. The National Park Service has recently undertaken archaeological investigations at the kiln site, and has built an interpretive center around the site.

- Yorktown Shipwrecks

This area contains the remains of British ships sunk off Yorktown during the siege of 1781. Known ships include the 44-gun *Charon*, the 28-gun frigate *Guadaloupe*, 44-gun frigate *Fowey*, and a number of smaller ships and boats.

- William Gooch Tomb and York Village Archaeological Site, U.S. Coast Guard Training Center

William Gooch was a member of the House of Burgesses, and was appointed to the Council in 1655. York Village was the forerunner of Yorktown, established two miles to the west in 1691. On land surrounding the Gooch tomb was established the first English settlement on the York River. Trenches east of the tomb are remnants of fortifications built by General J.B. Magruder during the Civil War.

- Bryan Manor Plantation, 1½ miles east of Williamsburg

This archaeological site contains the remains of a mid-eighteenth century plantation complex and includes a tabletop tombstone dating to 1760. A second grave area dates to the nineteenth century and bears the names of members of the Lee family. Frederick Bryan purchased the property in 1757 and built a brick plantation house on the property. During the 1760s, Bryan served as York County Sheriff and was a vestryman at Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg.

- Bruton Parish Poorhouse Archaeological Site, near Route 132 & I-64

This site contains the intact remains of an eighteenth century workhouse for the poor, which was established by an act of the Virginia legislature in 1755. The facility was established at the request of the Bruton Parish Church, which provided institutional care for the poor of the Williamsburg area.

- Queen Mary's Port, Capitol Landing, York County and Williamsburg

This area contains the archeological remains of facilities associated with the commercial port established by the Virginia Assembly in 1699. The port, active and thriving through the end of the Revolutionary War, was located on Queen's Creek at the end of Capitol Landing Road (then called Queen's Road). This road served as the main travel way between the port and the City of Williamsburg. The area once contained a public wharf, tobacco inspection warehouses, taverns, and several bridges across Queen's Creek that provided valuable transportation links for the residents of Williamsburg and upper York County. A ferry also ran between Capitol Landing across the York River to Gloucester County during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

- Lee's Mill Battlefield, Dam #1 Battlefield Site, York County and Newport News

This Civil War battlefield site, the majority of which is located in Newport News Park, contains archaeological remains of the noted battle in which Confederate Major General John Magruder successfully repelled an attack by Union General George McClellan on April 16, 1862.

York County is home to several museums providing exhibits and programs interpreting the County's history from prehistoric times to the present day.





*Timeline Kiosk at Yorktown Victory Center*

The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation operates the Yorktown Victory Center, located on Water Street near the Yorktown Battlefield. The facility, established in 1976, maintains a historical focus of the period leading up to the American Revolution through the adoption of the Constitution and Bill of Rights at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Outdoor exhibits include a walking path with timeline exhibit, a recreated 1780s farm, and a Continental Army encampment. Indoor facilities include exhibition galleries with dioramas highlighting the roles of people on both sides of the Revolutionary War conflict, exhibits documenting Yorktown's history as a commercial port, and a theater showing interpretive films describing Yorktown and its role during the Revolutionary War period.

The York County Historical Museum is located in York Hall on Main Street in the center of the Yorktown village historical area. The museum contains artifacts, educational information and exhibits about York County's past including information about Native American tools, Colonial Yorktown, Revolutionary and Civil War periods, and the 20th Century.

The Watermen's Museum, located on the York River in the historic village area of Yorktown, was founded in 1981 for the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Yorktown. The museum interprets the history of the men and women in the fishing industry of the Chesapeake Bay, from the time of Indian settlements to the present day.

The National Park Service owns and maintains the Colonial National Historical Park, which includes a visitor center at the edge of the historic Yorktown area, the Yorktown Battlefield and the Colonial Parkway. The visitor center offers visitor orientation films, lectures, and exhibits focusing on the 1781 Siege of Yorktown. The Battlefield includes auto tour roads with interpretive signage recounting the events and important places associated with the Siege.

The County has several historical highway markers installed under the VHDR Historical Marker Program. Participation in the program is a valuable means to help educate the public on state history as well as promote tourism. Any person or organization can submit a proposal for a highway marker. To qualify for a state historical marker, a person, place, event, or institution must have state or national historical significance attained 50 or more years in the past. The Virginia Department of Transportation retains responsibility for the installation of new markers and the maintenance of existing ones. Currently, York County has historical markers displaying the following information:

- Patrick Napier, Colonial Surgeon – Merrimac Trail, Williamsburg

*"Nearby lived "Patrick Napier of Queens Creek in the County of Yorke chirurgion," one of the earliest surgeons of Scottish descent in Virginia. Born about 1634, and apprenticed to the surgeon general of the Scottish army defeated by Cromwell in 1650, Patrick Napier arrived here before 1655. He married Elizabeth, a daughter of Robert Booth, Clerk of York County Court and a member of the House of Burgesses. By horse and boat, Napier attended the sick, performed surgery, and bled his patients, and dispensed various*



*remedies consistent with the practice of medicine in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century. He died in 1669. He was the progenitor of most of the Napiers in America."*

- Vineyard Tract - Penniman Road, Williamsburg

*"Here was an experimental farm for the culture of grapes established by the Virginia government in 1769. On this tract stood a hospital of the French-American army in 1781."*

- Whittaker's House - Pocahontas Trail, Williamsburg

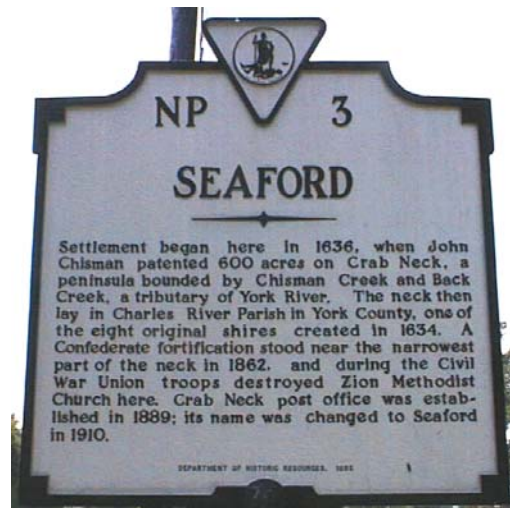
*"A mile north of the road is Whittaker's House, headquarters of General W.F. Smith, Battle of Williamsburg, May 5, 1862."*

- Charles Church - Hampton Highway and GW Memorial Highway, Tabb

*"About one mile east, on north (left-hand) side of road (see stone marker and old foundations) stood the last colonial church of Charles Parish, built about 1709 and burned a century later on the site of two earlier churches of the Parish, built about 1636 and 1692. This Parish was first known as New Poquoson Parish in 1692 and was renamed Charles Parish in 1692."*

- Seaford - Seaford Road, Seaford

*"Settlement began here in 1636, when John Chisman patented 600 acres on Crab Neck, a peninsula bounded by Chisman Creek and Back Creek, a tributary of York River. The neck then lay in Charles River Parish in York County, one of the eight original shires created in 1634. A Confederate fortification stood near the narrowest part of the neck until 1862, and during the Civil War Union troops destroyed Zion Methodist Church here. Crab Neck post office was established in 1889; its name was changed to Seaford in 1910."*



- Goodwin Neck - Goodwin Neck Road, Seaford

*"This area, locally known as Dandy, was part of the land granted by John Chew July 6, 1636, and was sold by his heirs to James Goodwin, a member of the House of Burgesses from Jamestown, August 27, 1668. The area was strategically important to British General Charles Cornwallis and to Confederate General John B. Magruder, who erected earth redoubts at the head of several creeks on Goodwin Neck."*

- York County – George Washington Memorial Highway (Route 17) at the Newport News line

*"One of the eight original shires formed in 1634. First called Charles River, which was named for King Charles I. The name was changed in 1643 to York for Yorkshire, England. Cornwallis's surrender, October 19, 1781 took place at Yorktown."*

## CITIZEN INPUT

Historic preservation emerged as one of the citizens' top priorities throughout the public input process conducted as part of the preparation of this plan. Based on the results of the telephone survey, preservation of historic sites and structures ranks second in importance only to protection of the natural environment, according to the citizens. The average ranking of this

goal was 4.52 on a scale of 1 to 5. More than two-thirds of County residents (69.2%) consider it extremely important to preserve historic sites and structures in the County, and this support is strong in both the lower County (70.5%) and the upper County (64.2%).

The strong public support for historic preservation is not surprising; in fact, when asked what they liked most about living in York County, many questionnaire respondents mentioned the history, which was the sixth most frequent response. Another question on the questionnaire asked if there are historic resources, areas, structures, or qualities in the County outside of historic Yorktown that should be protected. Responses included the following suggestions:

- [Resources in] upper York County
- Recognition of Uniontown
- More promotion of Yorktown
- Many areas in Grafton (Wainwright's Store, Grafton Polling Place)
- Historic Black neighborhoods
- National Park areas
- Waterfront

Citizen comments received during the Neighborhood Open Houses and through the Planning Division website included a need for more recognition of historic sites in Yorktown and throughout the County, a need for public recognition of the Uniontown/Slabtown historic site located on the National Park Service property, and preservation of archaeological resources.

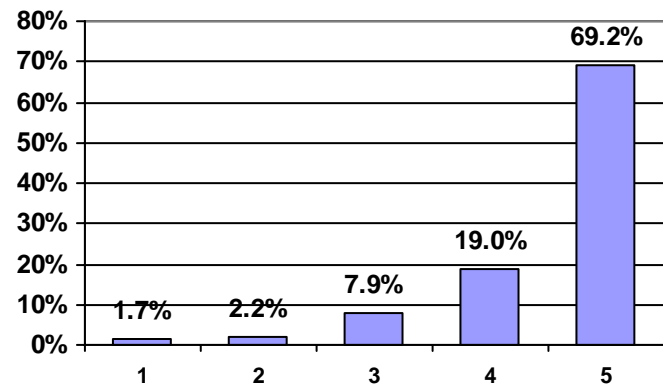
## PLANNING ISSUES FOR THE FUTURE

In addition to the afore-mentioned archaeological and architectural surveys, the County has undertaken several activities in the past decade to address preservation of historical resources.

The Yorktown Village Activity zoning district was initially adopted in 1981 as the PD-VA (Planned Development-Village Activity) district. With the 1995 County-wide comprehensive rezoning its name was changed, but its basic purpose, to protect Yorktown's special character, was preserved. The stated intent of this district is to

- "(1) Recognize Yorktown which, because of its national and international significance, its unique development history and the interrelatedness of historic, residential and commercial land uses, warrants the application of a special approach to further development; and
- (2) Recognize and implement the Yorktown Master Plan as an overall guide to the future redevelopment of Yorktown; and
- (3) Provide development opportunities for a variety of land uses which will contribute to and complement the unique character and village atmosphere of Yorktown; and

**Importance of protecting historic sites/structures on a scale of 1 to 5**



- (4) Promote economical and efficient land use, an improved level of amenities, innovative design, and unified development; and
- (5) Encourage pedestrian and bicycle-scale development in Yorktown and make the community more amenable to pedestrians and bicyclists.”

Special review procedures are required for development in this district, and development proposals must adequately address the above issues.

Subsequent to the completion of the 1990 CWF Resource Protection Planning report, the Board of Supervisors has adopted two important planning documents that, in part, emphasize preservation of the historical character of the village of Yorktown. The *Yorktown Master Plan* was adopted March 4, 1993 with a stated goal to “Create in Yorktown a vibrant community of people living, working, learning, visiting and playing; while enhancing its national stature, and respecting and preserving its continuing history, environment and character.” The Plan is referenced in the Zoning Ordinance with respect to administration of the Yorktown Village Activity zoning district. The Plan includes the following objectives.

“Provide for public improvement projects in Yorktown that are consistent with the direction provided by the “Focus on Yorktown” concept plan, responsive to the historic context of the Town, sensitive to the concerns of Yorktown’s residents, adaptable to modern functional requirements, and economically feasible from an engineering perspective.

Provide opportunities and encouragement for a range of land uses on privately owned land that complements the Town’s historic character and is feasible from a market perspective.

Serve as the basis on which to develop a set of design guidelines for Yorktown’s streets, architecture and landscape.”

The *Yorktown Historic District and Design Guidelines* were adopted by the Board of Supervisors on December 2, 2003. The guidelines contain the following goals for the Yorktown Historic District and the two distinct character areas therein, identified as the Historic Core and the Waterfront. As shown on the Yorktown Historic District map, the Historic Core contains the majority of the town’s significant architectural resources and includes areas of the village within the original survey of 1691 as well as adjacent areas of topographic similarity. The Waterfront generally comprises the area between the crest of the bluffs that run along the south side of Water Street and the York River.

#### **“Historic District**

- Protect Yorktown’s village character and its historic, cultural, and natural resources.
- Promote better understanding, appreciation, and use of Yorktown’s historic, cultural, and natural resources on the part of Village and County residents, property owners, merchants, County of York officials, National Park Service personnel, and visitors.
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#### **The Historic Core**

- Preserve and protect all pivotal resources (pre-1866); encourage the appropriate maintenance, repair and supplemental design of all contributing resources (post-Civil

- Decrease the impact of new construction or site development and ensure that new construction is appropriate to the history and village character of Yorktown, as well as to the commercial recreational, and cultural character of the Waterfront.

## The Waterfront

- Promote the appropriate maintenance, repair and supplemental design of all contributing resources, and encourage the compatibility of non-contributing structures and features, in accordance with the Waterfront's existing commercial, recreational, and historical character.
- Ensure that new construction is appropriate to the history and village character of Yorktown, as well as to the commercial, recreational, and cultural character of the Waterfront."



Three preservation programs that are recommended for use by the County are the Virginia Landmarks Register, the National Register of Historic Places, and the Certified Local Government program, administered by the VHDR.

The National and Virginia State Register programs set forth specific standards for evaluating the significance of properties to recognize the accomplishments of all peoples who have made a significant contribution to the state and/or country's history and heritage. The criteria are designed to guide state and local governments, Federal agencies, and others in evaluating potential entries for the National or State Registers.

#### Criteria for Evaluation

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- A. A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- B. A building or structure removed from its original location but which is primarily significant for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- C. A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life; or
- D. A cemetery which derives its primary importance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or

- E. A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- F. A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
- G. A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

The Certified Local Government (CLG) program affords a community the enhanced ability to identify, evaluate and protect its heritage resources. The program provides technical assistance from the VDHR and the National Park Service, and participating localities are eligible to apply for matching grants for historic preservation programs. Participating localities are required to adopt a historic district ordinance that defines district boundaries, establishes a preservation commission or review board to administer the ordinances, and identifies actions and standards for review of actions affecting local identified historic resources.

Tourism is a major element contributing to the County's economy, and utilizing the County's historical assets for heritage tourism should be encouraged. Promotion of these assets can serve to protect valuable historical resources, educate residents and visitors about local history, build stronger communities with a better "sense of place," and promote economic vitality. Building private and public partnerships to meet tourism needs is essential. Key groups can include educators, property owners, tourism professionals, hotel/motel, retail and restaurant owners, curators and preservationists, local government staff, officials, and volunteers. Participation in the upcoming Jamestown 2007 commemoration will be a great opportunity to promote regional historic resources and realize the benefits of heritage tourism. Advantage should be taken of the public's increased access to global communication facilities, such as the worldwide web, to promote heritage tourism in the County and the region.

Both the 1990 CWF survey and the 2000 County architectural survey included several recommendations for historic preservation actions the County should consider. In addition to County staff recommendations, the following objectives and strategies include recommendations from these reports as well as input from members of the County Historical Committee.

## **GOAL, OBJECTIVES, AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**

### **Goal**

Identify, preserve, protect, and enhance the County's existing and future historical resources.

### **Objectives**

1. Update inventories of known archaeological and architectural resources on a regular basis.
2. Continue efforts to coordinate the sharing of information (as through VDHR) as inventories are conducted on the large percentage of the County's riverfront property, especially rich in historic resources, that is owned by the Federal Government.
3. Increased attention should be given to the documentation, inventory and evaluation of African-American resources.
4. Initiate a regional survey and evaluation study of mill sites, particularly those that played an important role in the maintenance of the historic plantation system.



5. Explore funding options for preservation activities.
6. Consider establishment of historic or neighborhood protection districts in historically significant communities.
7. Maintain a local historic archives repository.
8. Promote public education and awareness of County historic resources for persons of all ages. Utilize these resources for the educational, civic, and economic benefit of the County and its citizens.
9. Participate in the Virginia Historic Landmarks and National Register of Historic Places programs.
10. As was done with architectural resources, complete a comprehensive archaeological resources inventory to identify archaeologically sensitive areas of the County.
11. Promote heritage tourism in the County.

### **Implementation Strategies**

1. Combine open/green space preservation with preservation of historic resources where feasible.
2. Utilize current VHDR databases and archives in reviewing and evaluating development proposals, especially in context of the Historic Resources Management overlay zoning district.
3. Require a survey and evaluation report of all known historic sites in conjunction with the submission of all subdivision plans, site plans, and rezoning and special use permit applications that include a conceptual development plan, said evaluation to be prepared in accordance with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources *Guidelines for Conducting Cultural Resource Survey in Virginia*, and require protection of resources deemed significant throughout the development process.
4. Utilize VHDR staff for technical assistance in administering Zoning Ordinance Section 24.1-374, Historic Resources Management overlay district, with the evaluation of historic sites during rezoning, special use permit, site plan and subdivision plan approval processes.
5. Update the County *Historic Resources Survey* at the time of each Comprehensive Plan update.
6. Initiate a county-wide evaluation study of identified archaeological sites, with special attention being given to early native Indian populations. Assess the significance of and formulate management strategies for the preservation of especially sensitive sites.
7. Utilize GIS (geographic information systems) capabilities to maintain maps and associated archival data.
8. Seek recognition of and inventory known African-American historic sites, such as the Uniontown area located on National Park Service Land near Cook Road and the Magruder community located on Camp Peary.
9. Initiate an architectural investigation of historic farming complexes.

10. Assist and participate in public education activities with local schools and community groups.
11. Continue active participation in the Jamestown 2007 Community Program, and develop ongoing heritage-themed programs and events to promote County historic resources.
12. Promote historic resources by contributing information through global communication and internet sites.
13. Maintain and update surveys and databases of public and private cemeteries (with landowner permission) within the County.
14. Inventory and evaluate historical mill complexes, including Burwell's Mill (Whittaker's Mill), Ludwell's Mill, and Piggot's Mill archaeological sites.
15. Seek and procure available funding from local, state and federal grant and/or tax incentive programs for preservation activities.
16. Consider neighborhood or historic preservation districts for Dare, Hornsbyville, Seaford, Tabb, Dandy, Grove, Yorkville, Lackey, Magruder and Skimino.
17. Seek certification under the VDHR Certified Local Government (CLG) program.
18. Prioritize sites deemed eligible for inclusion on the Virginia Landmarks Register and/or the National Register of Historic Places, and initiate applications for their certification under these programs.

# York County Historical Architectural Resources

## Appendix A

Source: Virginia Department of Historical Resources, July 2005

VDHR ID	Resource Name	Register Eligible?
099-0001	William Rogers (Poor Potter's) Kiln	
099-0002	Bellefield Site & Cemetery	
099-0003	Cherry Hall	
099-0004	Customs House, Main & Read streets	V/N
099-0005	Virginia Farm Group	
099-0006	Farinholt House/Water View	
099-0007	Shields Site (A)	
099-0008	Foundations, SE Main & Church Streets	
099-0009	Foundations, SW Main & Church Streets	
099-0010	Grace (Episcopal) Church; Thomas Nelson Jr. Grave	V/N
099-0011	Grafton Christian Church	
099-0012	Kiskiack	V/N
099-0013	Somerwell House (Lightfoot)	
099-0014	Marlbank House	E
099-0015	Medical Shop	
099-0016	Moore House	
099-0017	Nelson House (York Hall)	
099-0018	Ringfield	
099-0019	Pope-Sessions-Sheild House (Sheild House)	V/N
099-0020	Coleman Bridge	E
099-0021	Swan Tavern	
099-0022	Dudley Digges House (West House)	
099-0023	Wharf Building (Passenger, Freight Shed, Old Post Office)	
099-0024	W.H. Banks House	
099-0025	Wainwright Store	E
099-0026	Mouquin House (Camp Peary Quarters 13 & 14)	E
099-0027	Thomas Pate House (Cole Digges House)	
099-0028	York County Courthouse	
099-0031	Oxford Tide Mill	
099-0034	Archer House	
099-0035	Ballard House	
099-0036	Marl Cave	
099-0037	Edmund Smith House	
099-0038	Confederate Peninsular Defenses Fort 7	
099-0039	Confederate Peninsular Defenses Fort 8	
099-0040	Confederate Peninsular Defenses Fort 9	
099-0041	Confederate Peninsular Defenses Fort 10	
099-0042	Confederate Peninsular Defenses Fort 11	
099-0043	Confederate Peninsular Defenses Fort 12	
099-0044	Confederate Peninsular Defenses Fort 13	
099-0045	Confederate Peninsular Defenses Fort 14	
099-0046	Tue Marshes Lighthouse	
099-0047	York Spit Lighthouse	
099-0048	Rippon Hall	

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099-0049	Whitakers House Site	
099-0050	Porto Bello	V/N
099-0051	House Site (Camp Peary)	
099-0052	Braxton House Site	
099-0053	Mr. Bill House Site	
099-0054	Travis House Site	
099-0055	Quaker Site	
099-0056	Piggott's Mill (Fenton Mill)	
099-0057	Yorktown Historic District	V/N
099-0057-0001	Yorktown Victory Monument-SOS	
099-0058	Yorktown Shipwrecks	V/N
099-0059	Structure Site (Queen's Lake Subdivision)	
099-0060	Gooch Tomb & York Village Archaeological Site	V/N
099-0062	Custis Plantation Site	
099-0063	New Quarter Site	
099-0064	Hubbard Lane Site	
099-0065	Bryan Manor Plantation Site	V/N
099-0066	House	
099-0070	Bruton Parish Poorhouse site	V/N
099-0071	House, Old Wormley Creek Road	
099-0073	House, 1334 Waterview Road	
099-0074	House, 717 Waterview Road	
099-0075	House, Old Wormley Creek Road	
099-0076	Fred Hogg House, 716 Old Wormley Creek Road	E
099-0077	House, 806 Old Wormley Creek Road	
099-0078	House, 7908 G.W. Memorial Highway	
099-0079	House, New Quarter	
099-0080	House, 100 Ambler Street	
099-0081	Crawford House, 106 Ambler Street	
099-0082	House, 108 Ambler Street	
099-0083	First Mate Seafood Restaurant, Water Street	
099-0084	Service Station/House, Water Street	
099-0085	House, 102 Ambler Street	
099-0086	Emergency Fuel Oil Facility	
099-0087	House, Rt. 631	
099-0088	House, Old Wormley Creek Road	
099-0096	Naval Weapons Station Quarters A	
099-0097	Naval Weapons Station Quarters B	
099-0098	Naval Weapons Station Quarters C	
099-0099	Naval Weapons Station Quarters D	
099-0100	Naval Weapons Station Quarters E	
099-0101	Naval Weapons Station Quarters F	
099-0102	Naval Weapons Station Quarters G	
099-0103	Naval Weapons Station Quarters M	
099-0104	Naval Weapons Station Quarters N	
099-0105	Yorktown Naval Weapons Station Historic District	
099-0105-0001	Yorktown Naval Weapons Station (YNWS) Mine Fill Plant 1	
099-0105-0002	YNWS Mine Assembly Plant 1	
099-0105-0003	YNWS Motor Assembly/Rocket Plant	
099-0105-0004	YNWS Mine Filling Plant 3	
099-0105-0005	YNWS Advance Base Portable Mine Assembly	

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099-0105-0006	YNWS Experimental Building	
099-0105-0007	YNWS Mine Assembly/Torpedo Plant 2	
099-0105-0008	YNWS Special Mine Assembly/Demolition Plant	
099-0105-0009	YNWS Pilot Loading Plant	
099-0105-0010	YNWS TNT Reclamation Plant	
099-0105-0011	YNWS Mine Filling Plant 2	
099-0105-0012	YNWS Unfusing Plant	
099-0105-0015	YNWS Mine Parts Storage, Building 3	
099-0106	A.R. Carter House, 5825 G.W. Memorial Highway	
099-0107	Ernest E. Amory House	
099-0108	SOS-John Henry Printing Press	
099-0109	SOS-Flame and Cross	
099-0110	SOS-White French Cross to War Dead	
099-0111	SOS-Percy the Bear	
099-0112	SOS-St. Joan of Arc	
099-0113	SOS-Greek Sculptures at Nick's Seafood Pavilion Restaurant	
099-0114	Cedar Valley Farm	
099-0115	Piggot House, 1614 Mooretown Road	
099-0116	J. Piggot House, 6166 Mooretown Road	
099-0117	House, 6086 Mooretown Road	
099-0118	Hooker, David House	
099-0119	House, Mooretown Road	
099-0120	House, 325 Ewell Road	
099-0121	G.M. Milburn House, 5476 Mooretown Road	
099-0122	Mershon Farm, Route 60	
099-0123	Terepin Station, Route 60	
099-0132	Commercial Building, Water Street	
099-0133	House, Route 199	
099-0134	House, Route.199	
099-0135	House, New Quarter	
099-0136	House, 1401 Waterview Road	
099-0137	House, 1300 block, Waterview Road	
099-0138	House, Hornsbyville	
099-0139	House, 811 Waterview Road	
099-0140	House, 915 Waterview Road	
099-0141	House, 100 Oak Point Drive	
099-0142	House, 711 Waterview Road	
099-0143	House, 707 Waterview Road	
099-0144	House, 701 Waterview Road	
099-0145	House, Branch Lane	
099-0146	House, 813 Old Wormley Creek Road	
099-0147	House, Route 199	
099-0148	Halfway House site	
099-0149	Charles Church site	
099-0150	Spencer site	
099-0151	Powder Horn, Engraved (HABS)	
099-5001	Hogue House, 1995 Merrimac Trail	
099-5002	Dodrill House, 1997 Merrimac Trail	
099-5003	Hogge House & Woodworks, 1999 Merrimac Trail	
099-5004	Earthworks, Kings Creek Plantation	
099-5005	Cherry Hall, 10 Fenton Mill Road	

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099-5006	Bridge #2005, I-64 spanning Colonial Parkway	
099-5007	Bridge #2006, I-64 spanning Colonial Parkway	
099-5008	Bridge, Rt 238, spanning Colonial Parkway	
099-5009	Bridge #1900, Rt 134, spanning Brick Kiln Creek	
099-5010	Henry Allen House	
099-5011	Abidjah Edlow House	
099-5012	Lonnie Sawyer House	
099-5013	Cook Farm	
099-5014	Tabb Farm	
099-5015	Nottingham Place	
099-5016	American Red Cross	
099-5017	Tom Curtis House	
099-5018	Harris-Thomas Law Office	E
099-5019	Methodist Parsonage	
099-5020	House, 210 Burts Road	
099-5021	John Martin House, 5425 G. W. Memorial Highway	
099-5022	Redmen Hall	
099-5023	White-Ramer House	
099-5024	Tabb-Davis House (Meyerhoffer House)	E
099-5025	Thacker House	
099-5026	Walden House	
099-5027	House, 2303 Lakeside Drive	
099-5028	House, Dare Road	
099-5029	Dandy Baptist Chapel	
099-5030	Seaford Yacht Club	
099-5031	Lockley Family House	
099-5032	W.W. Sparrer House	
099-5033	House, Dare Road	
099-5034	Wilson House	
099-5035	Thorpland	
099-5036	House, Calthrop Neck Road	
099-5037	Barrs House, 209 Sylvia Drive	E
099-5038	House, 708 Calthrop Neck Road	
099-5039	Kubesh House	
099-5040	Pharr House	
099-5041	Tabb Post Office (Sally Smith House)	E
099-5042	Smith Farm House	
099-5043	House, Yorktown Road	
099-5044	Bethel Baptist Church	
099-5045	Wainwright House	
099-5046	Colonna House	
099-5047	Shoemaker House	
099-5048	Moore House	E
099-5049	House, Wynne Road	
099-5050	House, Dare Road	
099-5051	House, Wynne Road	
099-5052	Mitchell House	
099-5053	Smith Farm House	E
099-5054	Wallace K. Smith House	
099-5055	James K. Smith House	
099-5056	Shinn House	

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099-5057	William Roos House	
099-5058	George D. Cole House	
099-5059	Moore Farm House	
099-5060	Moore House	
099-5061	Moore Family House	
099-5062	Hornsbyville Historic District	
099-5062-0001	House, 816 Hornsbyville Road	
099-5062-0002	House, 1113 Hornsbyville Road	
099-5062-0003	Hornsbyville Baptist Church	
099-5062-0004	House, 918 Hornsbyville Road, Wilcher House	
099-5062-0005	House, 1020 Hornsbyville Road	
099-5062-0006	House, 1319 Hornsbyville Road	
099-5062-0007	House, 1301 Hornsbyville Road	
099-5062-0008	House, 1116 Hornsbyville Road	
099-5062-0009	House, 1319 Hornsbyville Road	
099-5062-0010	House, 1207 Hornsbyville Road	
099-5063	Knox Sawmill and Lumber	
099-5064	House, Patricks Creek Road	
099-5065	Wornom House	
099-5066	House, Carey's Chapel Road	
099-5067	Banks House	
099-5068	Middleton House	
099-5069	House, Mansion Road	
099-5070	Hautz, Pearl House	
099-5071	Daugharty House	
099-5072	Sanders House	
099-5072	Sanders House	
099-5073	Sanders Store	
099-5074	Andrew Nettles House	
099-5075	House, Theatre Road	
099-5076	Robinson House	
099-5077	Nanny Bright House and Cabins	
099-5078	House, Old Williamsburg Road	
099-5079	Smiths Marine Railway	E
099-5080	House, Dogwood Road	
099-5081	House, Maple Road	
099-5082	House, Maple Road	
099-5083	House, Church Road	
099-5084	Brown House	
099-5085	House, Yorkville Road	
099-5086	House, Wilkinson Road	
099-5087	Gulden House	
099-5088	Samuel Major Farm & Barn	E
099-5089	House, Oak Tree Road	
099-5090	R.E. Jones House	
099-5091	Oak Grove Baptist Church	
099-5092	House, Waller Mill Road	
099-5093	House, Waller Mill Road	
099-5094	House, Penniman Road	
099-5095	House, Penniman Road	
099-5096	Semple Farm House	

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099-5097	Heritage Free Will Baptist Church	
099-5098	House, Queens Creek Road	
099-5099	House, Queens Creek Road	
099-5100	House, Queens Creek Road	
099-5101	House, Queens Creek Road	
099-5102	House, Penniman Road	
099-5103	House, Penniman Road	
099-5104	House, Springfield Road	
099-5105	Levorsen House	E
099-5106	Houses, Newman Road	
099-5107	House, Lightfoot Road	
099-5108	House, Lightfoot Road	
099-5109	Garage, East Rochambeau Road	
099-5110	Seaford Historic District	E
099-5110-0001	Gaston Wornam House/Michael Cotter House and Barber Shop, 2205 Seaford Road	
099-5110-0002	Dr. Powell House, 117 Woods Road	
099-5110-0003	House, 2307 Seaford Road	
099-5110-0004	Ironmonger House, 2414 Seaford Road (Parsons House)	E
099-5110-0005	Eugene Slight House, 2405 Seaford Road (Teresa Walton House)	E
099-5110-0006	Barber House, 817 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0007	House, 119 Claxton Creek Road	
099-5110-0008	House, 129 Landing Road	
099-5110-0009	Store, 1001 Back Creek Road (White's General Store)	E
099-5110-0010	Hornsby House, 1300 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0011	Hornsby House, 1304 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0012	Bank/Telephone Exchange	
099-5110-0013	Captain Harry White House, Crab House, 123 White's Lane (Marine Railway)	
099-5110-0014	House, 1324 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0015	Gaston Wornam House, 1326 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0016	Farr House, 1402 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0017	Truston House, 1407 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0018	Mills House, 1421 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0019	Rutherford House, 1504 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0020	William Taylor House, 1610 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0021	Dabney Hudgins House, 1615 Back Creek Road	E
099-5110-0022	House, 1626 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0023	House, 1723 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0024	E. W. Mills House, 105 Shirley Road	E
099-5110-0025	White House, 110 Shirley Road	
099-5110-0026	Denny House, 401 Shirley Road	
099-5110-0027	House, 1630 Back Creek Road	
099-5110-0028	Zion United Methodist Church	
099-5110-0029	Angle House, 2800 Seaford Road	
099-5111	York Drive In	
099-5112	Dawsons Packing Company	E
099-5113	Dawson House	E
099-5114	House, Dandy Loop Road	
099-5115	House, Dandy Loop Road	
099-5116	House, Dandy Loop Road	

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099-5117	House, Dandy Loop Road	
099-5118	House, Dandy Loop Road	
099-5119	House, Dandy Loop Road	
099-5120	House, Dandy Loop Road	
099-5121	Hudson House	
099-5122	Bramsford House	
099-5123	House, Goodwin Neck Road	
099-5124	Piercy House	
099-5125	House, Dandy Loop Road	
099-5126	Presson House	
099-5127	House, Dare Road	
099-5128	Albert S. Russell House	
099-5129	Rachel Griffin House	
099-5130	House, Yorktown Road	
099-5131	Presson House (Charles Parish Glebe/Pleasant Dale)	E
099-5132	Hopson Store and House	E
099-5133	Carmines House	
099-5134	House, Big Bethel Road	
099-5135	Kentucky Farm	
099-5136	Sidney Dawson House	
099-5137	Dare Grocery Store	
099-5138	Carl L. Pittman House	
099-5139	Charles Kemp House	
099-5140	Forrest House	
099-5141	Eubank House	
099-5142	Wainwright House	
099-5143	Gordon House	
099-5144	House, Railway Road	
099-5145	House, Railway Road	
099-5146	House, Old Lakeside Drive	
099-5147	House, Burt's Road	
099-5148	House, Old Lakeside Drive	
099-5149	Harwood Mills Motel Court, 4225 G. W. Memorial Highway	
099-5150	Dawson House	
099-5152	Morse Mier House	
099-5153	Jacobson Farm	
099-5154	House, Queens Creek Road	
099-5155	Grafton Polling Building	
099-5156	House, Grafton Drive	
099-5157	House, Richneck Road	
099-5158	Melvin Parker House, 2427 Pocahontas Trail	
099-5159	Bay Tree Manor	
099-5160	Shields House	
099-5161	Richard Byrd House	
099-5162	House, Cornwallis Road	
099-5163	House, Cornwallis Road	
099-5164	House, Lafayette Road	
099-5165	House, Moore House Road	
099-5166	College Airport	
099-5167	Water Filtration Plant	
099-5168	House, Yorktown Road	

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099-5170	York Psychiatric Counseling	
099-5171	Cooke House	
099-5172	Hudgins House	
099-5173	House, Yorktown Road	
099-5174	Bethel Baptist Church	
099-5175	Cheatham Annex Railroad Line	
099-5176	C&O Railroad Bed	
099-5177	Bridge, Route 143, Queens Creek	
099-5178	House, Waller Mill Road	
099-5209	John Granville King House, 8401 G.W. Memorial Highway	
099-5210	Elizabeth Callahan House, 8609 G.W. Memorial Highway	
099-5211	Jake Zalumas House, 8631 G.W. Memorial Highway	
099-5212	Minnie Hogge House, 8630 G.W. Memorial Highway	
099-5213	Richardson Garage, 102 Cook Rd	
099-5214	Samuel L. Richardson House, 106 Cook Road	
099-5215	Harold Cassel House, 8715 G. W. Memorial Highway	
099-5216	Wastewater Treatment Facility, Coast Guard Training Center	

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York County, Virginia  
July 2005

